

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A method for providing assistance in magnetization switching to a pole
2 tip, comprising:
3 disposing a magnetic bias field source proximate to the pole tip; and
4 causing current to flow through the magnetic bias field source for providing a
5 magnetic bias-field at a pole tip to facilitate pole-tip magnetization switching.

- 1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the providing the magnetic bias-field at a
2 pole tip further comprises providing the magnetic bias field substantially transverse to the
3 longitudinal axis of the pole tip.

- 1 3. The method of claim 1 wherein the providing the magnetic bias-field at a
2 pole tip further comprises providing the magnetic bias field substantially transverse to an
3 easy axis of magnetization for the pole tip.